not filling sands in sufficient quantity below the surface after mining of coal from underground mines in Talcher city which is under the control of M.C.L. situated in Orissa;

(b) whether any memorandum has been submitted to the 'National Human Rights Commission' in this regard; and

(c) whether owing to these very agitations, the higher authorities of M.C.L. have given assurance of starting sand filling by the 15th December?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. One "Talcher Field Band" was called on 12.10.2006 under the leadership of Ex-Chairman, Talcher Municipality in protest against non-filling of sand in some portion of the underground workings of Deulbera Colliery, Talcher Area of Mahanandi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL).

(b) One memorandum has been submitted to the National Human Rights Commission by Shri Kalandi Samal, State Secretary, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha, Orissa on 22.08.2006 regarding threat to Talcher town and its adjoining villages due to the mining activities of Deulbera and Handidhua Collieries.

(c) Yes, Sir. MCL has assured to start sand filling for stabilization by 15th December, 2006.

Separation of cutting and loading by SECL

†1642. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the justification of separating, cutting and loading in the tender inviting notice of surface minor machine by SECL Undertaking in the year 2003-04;

(b) whether it is a fact that award of tender to the same company could have been avoided had the cutting and loading in the tender been not separated;

(c) whether it was a deliberate act of SECL administration that if cutting and loading were not separted then the companies other than the said company would also have participated in the tender; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the additional expenditure cost to SECL due to such bifurcation of cutting and loading?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Since Surface Miner was to be deployed for the first time in South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL) particularly at Gevra Project where Ex-servicemen Transport Agencies have already been deployed for transport and loading of coal, it was decided by SECL management that deployment of Surface Miner for cutting of coal only shall be done on open tender basis and the work of loading of coal into tippers and transportation thereon shall be executed through Ex-servicemen Transport Agencies. This arrangement was considered necessary to ensure coal production without interruption even in case of break down of Surface Miner, since Ex-Servicemen Agencies can be deployed for loading and transportation of coal produced by conventional method of mining.

(b) Against an open tender floated for this work, 14 (fourteen) parties had purchased the tender documents, Offers were received from 7 (seven) parties and all the seven parties were found to be qualified bidders. Out of the seven qualifying bidders, one party, namely, M/s. Sainik Mining and Allied Services Ltd., a civilian contractor, emerged as L-1 party and the work was awarded to them after negotiation of the rates quoted by them.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (b) above.

(d) There was no additional expenditure to SECL due to bifurcation of cutting and loading of coal at Gevra OC.

Revival of Dankuni Coal Complex, CIL

1643. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is considering revival of Dankuni Coal Complex, a unit of Coal India Limited;

(b) if so, the action taken so far by Government for the same;

(c) whether any capital investment is being considered for the revival; and